

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are pending in the Application. Claims 1 and 4 are amended, and claim 2 is canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, the subject matter thereof having been incorporated into claim 1 from which it depended. Applicants request reconsideration and allowance in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 1 and 4 are objected to based on certain minor grammatical informalities. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended to overcome the informalities.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1, 2, and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Nakamura et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,518,390. Claims 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Nakamura in view of Bulgrin, U.S. Patent No. 5,997,778, on which the Examiner relies for disclosure of compensating for a servo delay in calculating an injection command correction value. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

As noted above, the limitations of claim 2, which depended from claim 1, have been incorporated into claim 1 (from which the remaining claims all ultimately depend). With respect to claim 2, the Examiner alleges that

Nakamura shows the process as claimed as discussed in the rejection of claim 1 above, including a method wherein the correction value is obtained by operating the injection cylinder unit for a predetermined number of injection shots by the ordinary injection position feedback control (Column 3, lines 60-67; Column 4, lines 1-29), and thereafter, the control is shifted to open loop control of injection velocity by command data generated from the correction value and the previous command data (Column 2, lines 49-56; Column 30-37 [sic]).

Applicants traverse the rejection to the extent it applies to claim 2 (and now applicable to claim 1 by virtue of the amendment).

Although the cited portions of the Nakamura reference refer to deriving a correction value A_v to be applied to the command value V_c "for due correction to eliminate the deviation of speed measurement V_d from set point V_s of speed," Nakamura does not refer to operating the injection cylinder unit 1) for a predetermined number of injection shots, during which the injection cylinder is controlled by ordinary feedback control of the injection position and during which the correction value is calculated; and then 2) subsequently shifting over control of the injection cylinder to open loop control, under which open loop control command data for driving the injection cylinder is generated using that correction value (obtained by operating the cylinder for a predetermined number of times under feedback control) and the previous command data. If the Examiner sees some particular passage in the Nakamura reference which she believes discloses that mode of operation, it is respectfully requested that she contact Applicants' undersigned representative to discuss such supposed disclosure of the claim-recited subject matter. Applicants submit, however, that there is no such disclosure in Nakamura et al., and therefore respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all remaining claims are in condition for allowance, and timely Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,
PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP



KENNETH M. FAGIN
Reg. No. 37615
Tel. No. (703) 905-2066
Fax No. 703 905-2500

Date: February 11, 2004
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
(703) 905-2000